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#670  
6/14/01  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Zheng et al. Examiner: Brown, C.  
Serial No.: 09/437,006 Group Art Unit: 1765  
Filed: November 9, 1999 Docket No.: VLSI.268PA  
Title: ETCH PROCESS THAT RESISTS NOTCHING AT ELECTRODE BOTTOM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 1, 2001.

By: Erin M. Nichols  
Erin M. Nichols

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 8, 2001, please consider the following remarks.

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Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The Office Action dated March 8, 2001, indicated that claims 1-7 stand rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Grimbergen et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,081,334) in view of *Witek et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,627,395); and claims 8-21 stand rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Grimbergen et al.* and *Witek et al.* as applied to claims 1-7 and further in view of *Witek et al.*